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COUNTRY Poland REPORTTOPIC Polish and Soviet Troops in Neustettin (Szczecin) 25X1EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED 25X1DATE OF CONT DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 7 February 1955 25X1REFERENCES PAGES 6 8 6 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

1. Prior to early May 1954, the former Infanterie Kaserne in Neustettin (P 54/M 90) quartered Polish Army troops which were generally referred to as the infantry regiment (pulk piechoty) in the station area. The installation was located on the northwestern perimeter of the city on the northeast side of ul. Kosciuszki (formerly Koenigsvorstadt Strasse), 200 meters northwest of the hospital, was constantly occupied by Polish troops since 1948, and showed no war damages. The soldiers who served their term of active service in the installation wore normal Polish Army uniforms and red service color. During field training, the enlisted men wore laced shoes with canvas puttees. The troops each year left the station in the first days of May and came back in October. During the last years, they allegedly moved to the Hammerstein (P 54/N 00) training grounds. A band was located in the barracks area. The units leaving or returning to the installation were only equipped with light and heavy infantry weapons which included rifles; submachine guns with round drum magazines; submachine guns with curved clip magazines and collapsible shoulder stocks; light machine guns with disc-shaped magazines; man-drawn heavy machine guns on small wheels whose ammunition boxes were carried; and mortars of two models, the one of which was man-drawn and mounted on small iron wheels, while the other model was carried in two loads, namely the barrel and the base plate. Two lines of closely arranged trucks were observed in the barracks area. The length of each line was estimated at about 75 meters. About 10 jeeps were also parked in this area. Officers rode in Pobieda sedans. The troops also had some horses which were used for service drives. Field training included infantry assault practices, camouflage exercises and entrenching. Blank cartridges were used for field training. Soldiers observed at combat training were regularly equipped with entrenching tools. Activities in the barracks area included normal drill, physical training, and gymnastics which emphasized long-distance runs and training in the area of the obstacle course. Billets of Polish officers and married NCOs and their dependents were located just south of the installation, on the south side of former Jaeger Strasse. Buildings in the barracks area which were available exclusively for the billeting of troops included two large five-story or six-story structures each of which was about 80 meters long.

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2. Other troop billets were located just northeast of the former Infanterie Kaserne from which they were partitioned by ul. Polna (formerly Gras Weg). In the northwestern section of this billeting area was located a cantonment of about 15 low wooden buildings with brick foundation walls which was mainly used for billeting. A large permanent five-story barracks building with a large garage including a workshop located in its vicinity adjoined this cantonment to the southeast. The entrance of the billeting area was located on ul. Polna. Prior to the spring of 1954, Polish troops of various branches of service were observed in this billeting area. On the occasion of the return of the troops from the troop training grounds in the fall of 1953, details of ordnance and equipment were observed. About six full-track vehicles which were observed at that time included three with revolving turrets and three with rigid superstructures. Both models had large bogie wheels and similar suspensions and tracks. Soldiers observed at the vehicles wore infantry uniforms and red collar patches. At driving service they wore black tank helmets. Other vehicles observed included four or five four-wheeled armored scout cars with rod antennas and three trucks with rigid superstructures and antennas which were referred to as radio trucks. The troops returning in the fall of 1953 also included a unit of 10 to 12 low guns towed by trucks. The guns had long barrels, split-tail gun carriages and two rubber-tired wheels. On pictures the guns were recognized as 57-mm and 76-mm AT guns. Soldiers who wore army uniforms and red service color were observed with all the weapons and vehicles mentioned. In the fall of 1953, an engineer unit which numbered an estimated 250 men also returned to the same billets. The fully motorized unit was equipped with numerous trucks with trailers which carried wooden pontoons. Each truck with trailer was loaded with four pontoons. Other trucks carried boards and beams. The unit also had an undetermined number of Ursus tractors with trailers which were also loaded with boards, beams etc. Furthermore, the unit was equipped with pneumatic boats with a passenger capacity of six to eight men. During the winter months, no training with engineer equipment was observed. In summer, the unit regularly moved to a summer camp. The engineer soldiers, all of them young men on active service, wore normal army uniforms with red service color and, on duty, boots with breeches which was considered a peculiarity. Prior to the spring of 1954, no functional badges or arms insignia were observed on the uniforms.

3. In May 1954, the old castle just on the Streitzig See and on the southwest side of former Bluecher Strasse was occupied by a headquarters of the Polish Armed Forces. The castle was vacated by the Soviets in 1952. The castle and the surrounding park were fenced in and guarded by soldiers who wore army uniforms and red service color. Numerous officers and sedans, most of them Pobieda vehicles, were observed at the installation. The Polish headquarters moved to Neustettin in about 1952. It was headed by a general whom source had seen in Neustettin. The general wore epaulets with a large star and a cap with a red band and one or two stars on the front. The variance of the numbers of stars on the epaulets and the cap remained unexplained all the more so as source was unable to recollect the exact time of observation.

4. Prior to May 1954, a villa just east of the hospital, which was formerly used as the official apartment of the ~~German~~ chief physician, housed a military office whose staff ~~included~~ **Polish Air Force officers who usually** wore blue gray overknee ~~coats~~. This office which, was

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established prior to mid-1952 was guarded by sentries who belonged to the ~~1st Infantry~~ at the former Infanterie Kaserne. At the time of its ~~construction~~, a wall was constructed around the building. ~~Several large steel~~ cabinets were supplied to the installation at that time;

5. Prior to the spring of 1954, the Polish recruiting district headquarters (WKR) was located on the east side of ~~former Hammerstein~~ 200 meters northeast of the stadium. The ~~office building~~ district of Neustettin. In late August 1952, ~~action was taken to report to~~ this office for registration together with members of the 1926 through 1928 classes. These people were young men who had not yet served in the Polish Armed Forces and were scheduled to be inducted for three months' exercises. This action was allegedly taken under an act promulgated in 1951. In the summer of 1953, numerous residents of Neustettin who were 30 to 35 years old were inducted for three months' exercises. Some were dispatched to the Hammerstein troop training grounds where they were quartered in hutments. Others were dispatched to Bydgoszcz (P 54/J 09) where they were accommodated in low buildings which were referred to as the Ersatz Kaserne. Young residents of Neustettin were called up for active military service in Schneidemuehl (P 54/R 94), Danzig (Q 55/Y 42) and Chojnice (P 54/N 41).
6. Prior to the spring of 1954, a training ground for the Polish Forces was located northwest of the station and northeast of ~~the station~~ (P 54/M 80), between the Streitzig - Neustettin road and the ~~road~~ line which led past the installation farther to the north. The former German Army target ranges northnorthwest of the station, on the east side of the Koeslin (O 55/M 45) road and 1,300 meters northwest of the intersection of the road and the railroad line were still used. A Polish station ammunition depot where lights were observed at night was located in a birch-grove near the target range. Another Polish training ground was located southwest of the city in the area west of the Voelzkow See toward the villages of Mossin (P 54/M 80) and Eichen (P 54/M 80).
7. The ~~slaughterhouse~~ in the northern sector of the city, on the east side of ul. ~~Hammerstein~~ (formerly Kietz Strasse), which was under Soviet control prior to 1945 when it was turned over the Poles made supplies to the civilian population, Polish and Soviet troops in Neustettin, and Soviet troops in Gross Born (P 54/R 88). On some days, only supplies to Soviet agencies were prepared in this installation. The sausage factory which adjoined the slaughterhouse to the north worked the same way. Prior to May 1954, a bakery of the Polish Armed Forces which made supplies to the troops in Neustettin and Hammerstein was also located in the northern sector of the city, about 300 meters west of the ~~slaughterhouse~~ and on the northeast side of ul. Zielona (formerly ~~Hammerstein~~ Weg), opposite the tobacco store. Prior to May 1954, no ~~special station~~ hospital was located in the station area. Polish soldiers who could not be treated in the dispensary were taken to the civilian hospital.
8. Installations for troop-entraining were located on the southeastern edge of the freight yard. They included a long brick-constructed side ramp and an end-loading ramp with two railroad spurs. At this site, the Polish troops annually entrained in spring and detrained in fall. Only few Soviet troops entrained there during recent years. Incoming and outgoing shipments of Soviet motor vehicles needing repair were incidentally observed at the site.

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9. From 1948 to May 1954, the former Artillerie Kaserne on the eastern perimeter of the city, on the east side of former Deutsche Strasse and north of Ul. Leszna (formerly Forst Strasse) which was again redesignated in the meantime, continuously quartered Soviet troops. The installation was located about 1 kilometer northnortheast of the railroad station. Soldiers observed there wore red-bordered black epaulets or red-bordered khaki epaulets. Officers wore red cap bands. The soldiers, all of them members of young classes, were given only limited leave. It was believed that the installation was only slightly occupied, with the total occupation estimated at 400 to 500 men. It was known in Neustettin that the troops quartered in the installation belonged to the unit stationed at Gross Born. As ordnance and equipment of various kinds was observed at the installation it was believed that it housed repair installations for weapons, equipment and vehicles. At a time in August 1953, four tanks of a heavy model left the installation. Motor vehicles which towed trucks occasionally also left this area, where numerous trucks were observed at all times. Workshop installations were available. A band of the Soviet Armed Forces was also located in the installation. In the spring of 1954, the bulk of the Soviet troops in Pomerania was still stationed at Gross Born. In late 1952, the last Germans who were employed there were dismissed.⁴ Some villas on the west side of former Deutsche Strasse, just west of the former Artillerie Kaserne, housed Soviet officers and their dependents. The former German Army ration supply depot which adjoined the installation to the east was used to store grain, potatoes and fats. The installation made supplies to civilian and military agencies throughout the station area. It included three two-story brick-constructed storage sheds and a grain elevator which had about eight stories.

10. Prior to the spring of 1954, several minor groups of Soviet soldiers occasionally trained with radio sets and antennas in the area northeast of the station, between the southern point of the Vilm See and the Neustettin - Gr. Kuedde (P 54/M 90) road. The extent of training activities observed in this area was constantly limited.

11. The Soviet Armed Forces ran a laundry of their own in the area of a former German laundry on the east side of the market place in Neustettin which had a high smokestack. The washing for the Soviet troops in Gross Born was also done in this installation. The plant also employed civilian workers from Neustettin.⁴

12. Prior to May 1954, a Soviet fuel depot where fuel was picked up only by Soviet troops was located on the southern perimeter of the city, on the northeast side of the road toward Lottin (P 54/R 99), just south of the engine barn. From outside, seven large frame-supported overground tanks were observed in the depot area which was equipped with a railroad spur track. They were the same size as the tanks mounted on four-axle cars. Columns of up to 15 motor vehicles were observed picking up fuel at the depot. They allegedly came from Gross Born. The depot was replenished from tank cars.⁴

13. ~~Prior to the~~ Prior to the spring of 1954, streets in Neustettin were redesignated as specified below:


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

<u>Previous designation</u>	<u>Actual designation</u>
Bahnhof Strasse (part of street)	ul. Towarowa
Bismarck Strasse (south of Forst Strasse and part of Bahnhof Strasse)	ul. 28-go Lutego
Bismarck Strasse (part of street)	ul. Schukowa
Friedrich Strasse	ul. 1-go Maja
Forst Strasse	ul. Leszna
Gras Weg	ul. Polna
Kietz Strasse	ul. Kaszubska
Koenigs Strasse	ul. Stalina
Koenigsvorstadt Strasse	ul. Kościuszki
Koesliner Strasse	ul. Kozłinska
Markt (market place)	Plac Wolności
 Strasse	ul. Lipowa
Weinberg Strasse	ul. Pomorska
Wiedmuehlen Weg	ul. Zielona
Viktoria Strasse	ul. Wojska Polskiego

1.  Comment. An infantry regiment and the engineer battalion of the 14th Inf Div have been believed to be stationed at Neustettin. The present information which mentions light bridge construction equipment substantiates this belief as far as the engineer battalion is concerned. Tanks instead of SP guns and armored scout cars can also belong to a motorized infantry regiment. The headquarters of the 14th Inf Div is believed to be stationed at Deutsch Krone or Schneidemuehl, but it is not excluded that it is stationed at Neustettin. It is noted, however, that a deserter has reported the headquarters of the 16th Mecz Div as stationed at Neustettin. The bulk of the component units of this division has allegedly been stationed at the Hammerstein training grounds. On the basis of this information it would also be considered more likely that the troops observed belonged to the 16th Mecz Div as may also be concluded from the statement on the Hammerstein training grounds. It is fairly definitely believed that the summer training area of the 14th Inf Div is located around Dramburg rather than around Hammerstein. For the time being, the situation is undetermined.

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2.  Comment. This air force headquarters is reported for the first time and cannot be identified.

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3.  Comment. Several previous reports have mentioned inductions for three months' exercises. 

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4.  Comment. The present report tends to indicate that, prior to the summer of 1954, the Soviet 26th Gds Mecz Div has still been stationed at the Gross Born training grounds.

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CLASSIFICATION

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COUNTRY Poland

REPORT

TOPIC Polish and Soviet Troops in Neustettin (Szczecin)

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 7 February 1955

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REFERENCES

PAGES 6

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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3. In May 1954, the old castle just on the Streitzig See and on the southwest side of former Bluecher Strasse was occupied by a headquarters of the Polish Armed Forces. The castle was vacated by the Soviets in 1952. The castle and the surrounding park were fenced in and guarded by soldiers who wore army uniforms and red service color. Numerous officers and sedans, most of them Pobieda vehicles, were observed at the installation. The Polish headquarters moved to Neustettin in about 1952. It was headed by a general whom source had seen in Neustettin. The general wore epaulets with a large star and a cap with a red band and one or two stars on the front. The variance of the numbers of stars on the epaulets and the cap remained unexplained all the more so as source was unable to recollect the exact time of observation.
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5. Prior to the spring of 1954, the Polish recruiting district headquarters (WKR) was located on the east side of former Bluecher Strasse about 200 meters northeast of the stadium. The office was located in the district of Neustettin. In late August 1952, source had to report to this office for registration together with members of the 1926 through 1928 classes. These people were young men who had not yet served in the Polish Armed Forces and were scheduled to be inducted for three months' exercises. This action was allegedly taken under an act promulgated in 1951. In the summer of 1953, numerous residents of Neustettin who were 30 to 35 years old were inducted for three months' exercises. Some were dispatched to the Hammerstein troop training grounds where they were quartered in huts. Others were dispatched to Bydgoszcz (P 54/Y 09) where they were accommodated in low buildings which were referred to as the Ersatz Kaserne. Young residents of Neustettin were called up for active military service in Schneidemuehl (P 54/R 94), Danzig (Q 55/Y 42) and Chojnice (P 54/N 41).
6. Prior to the spring of 1954, a training ground for the Polish Armed Forces was located northwest of the station and northeast of [redacted] (P 54/M 30), between the Streitzig - Neustettin road and the railroad line which led past the installation farther to the north. The former German Army target ranges northnorthwest of the station, on the east side of the Koeslin (O 55/M 45) road and 1,300 meters northwest of the intersection of the road and the railroad line were still used. A Polish station ammunition depot where lights were observed at night was located in a birch-grove near the target range. Another Polish training ground was located southwest of the city in the area west of the Voolkow See toward the villages of Mossin (P 54/M 80) and Bichen (P 54/M 80).
7. The slaughterhouse in the northern sector of the city, on the east side of ul. [redacted] (formerly Riets Strasse), which was under Soviet control prior to 1951 when it was turned over the Poles made supplies to the civilian population, Polish and Soviet troops in Neustettin, and Soviet troops in Gross Born (P 54/R 88). On some days, only supplies to Soviet agencies were prepared in this installation. The sausage factory which adjoined the slaughterhouse to the north worked the same way. Prior to May 1954, a bakery of the Polish Armed Forces which made supplies to the troops in Neustettin and Hammerstein was also located in the northern sector of the city, about 300 meters west of the slaughterhouse and on the northeast side of ul. Zielona (formerly [redacted] Weg), opposite the tobacco store. Prior to May 1954, no special station hospital was located in the station area. Polish soldiers who could not be treated in the dispensary were taken to the civilian hospital.
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10. Prior to the spring of 1954, several minor groups of Soviet soldiers occasionally trained with radio sets and antennas in the area northeast of the station, between the southern point of the Vilm See and the Neustettin - Gr. Kuedde (P 54/M 90) road. The extent of training activities observed in this area was constantly limited.
11. The Soviet Armed Forces ran a laundry of their own in the area of a former German laundry on the east side of the market place in Neustettin which had a high smokestack. The washing for the Soviet troops in Gross Born was also done in this installation. The plant also employed civilian workers from Neustettin.⁴
12. Prior to May 1954, a Soviet fuel depot where fuel was picked up only by Soviet troops was located on the southern perimeter of the city, on the northeast side of the road toward Lottin (P 54/R 99), just south of the engine barn. From outside, seven large frame-supported overground tanks were observed in the depot area which was equipped with a railroad spur track. They were the same size as the tanks mounted on four-axle cars. Columns of up to 15 motor vehicles were observed picking up fuel at the depot. They allegedly came from Gross Born. The depot was replenished from tank cars.⁴
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<u>Previous designation</u>	<u>Actual designation</u>
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Bismarck Strasse (south of Forst Strasse and part of Bahnhof Strasse)	ul. 28-go Lutego
Bismarck Strasse (part of street)	ul. Schukowa
Friedrich Strasse	ul. 1-go Maja
Forst Strasse	ul. Leszna
Gras Weg	ul. Polna
Kietz Strasse	ul. Kaszubska
Koenigs Strasse	ul. Stalina
Koenigsvorstadt Strasse	ul. Kościuszki
Koesliner Strasse	ul. Kozłinska
Markt (market place)	Plac Wolności
Preussische Strasse	ul. Lipowa
Weinberg Strasse	ul. Pomorska
Windmuhlen Weg	ul. Zielona
Viktoria Strasse	ul. Wojska Polskiego

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